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HYLAND, LL

FBIS 16\*\*\*\*\*

PAK CHONG-HUI CONDEMNS N. KOREAN PROVOCATION AT DMZ

OW200341 SEOUL HAPTONG IN ENGLISH 0316 GMT 20 AUG 76 OW

(TEXT) SEOUL, AUG 20 (HAPTONG)--PRESIDENT PAK CHONG-HUI, SAYING "WE HAVE NO REASON JUST TO TAKE NORTH KOREAN PROVOCATIONS LYING DOWN," WARNED THAT SOUTH KOREA WOULD TAKE IMMEDIATE STEPS TO RETALIATE NORTH KOREA FOR ANY AND EVERY PROVOCATION IT DARES TO COMMIT IN THE FUTURE.

PAK SAID THE NORTH KOREAN COMMUNISTS HAD INTENTIONALLY PICKED UP A FIGHT WITH THE AMERICANS AT THE BORDER TOWN OF PANMUNJOM WEDNESDAY AND HAD COMMITTED THE "BRUTAL MURDERS."

THIS WAS PAK'S FIRST COMMENT ON THE SLAYING BY A GROUP OF NORTH KOREAN GUARDS OF TWO AMERICAN ARMY OFFICERS AT THE JOINT SECURITY AREA OF PANMUNJOM.

TERMING THE BORDER INCIDENT "A ~~LOT~~ OF AGGRESSIVE PROVOCATION," PAK SAID "WE HAVE A LIMIT IN OUR PATIENCE IN WITHSTANDING SUCH A PROVOCATION."

"A MAD DOG NEEDS A STICK AND SO WE ARE GOING TO RETALIATE NORTH KOREA FOR ITS FUTURE PROVOCATIONS, SMALL AND LARGE," PAK DECLARED.

IN A MESSAGE READ BY DEFENSE MINISTER SO CHONG-CHOL BEFORE THE 13TH COMMENCEMENT EXERCISE OF THE THIRD MILITARY ACADEMY, PAK SAID THE REASON WHY THE COMMUNISTS IN THE NORTH HAD INITIATED SUCH A PROVOCATION WAS THAT THEY WANTED TO DIVERT THE WORLD ATTENTION FROM THEIR INTERNAL POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC DIFFICULTIES.

20 AUG 0426Z BR/TM\*\*\*\*\*